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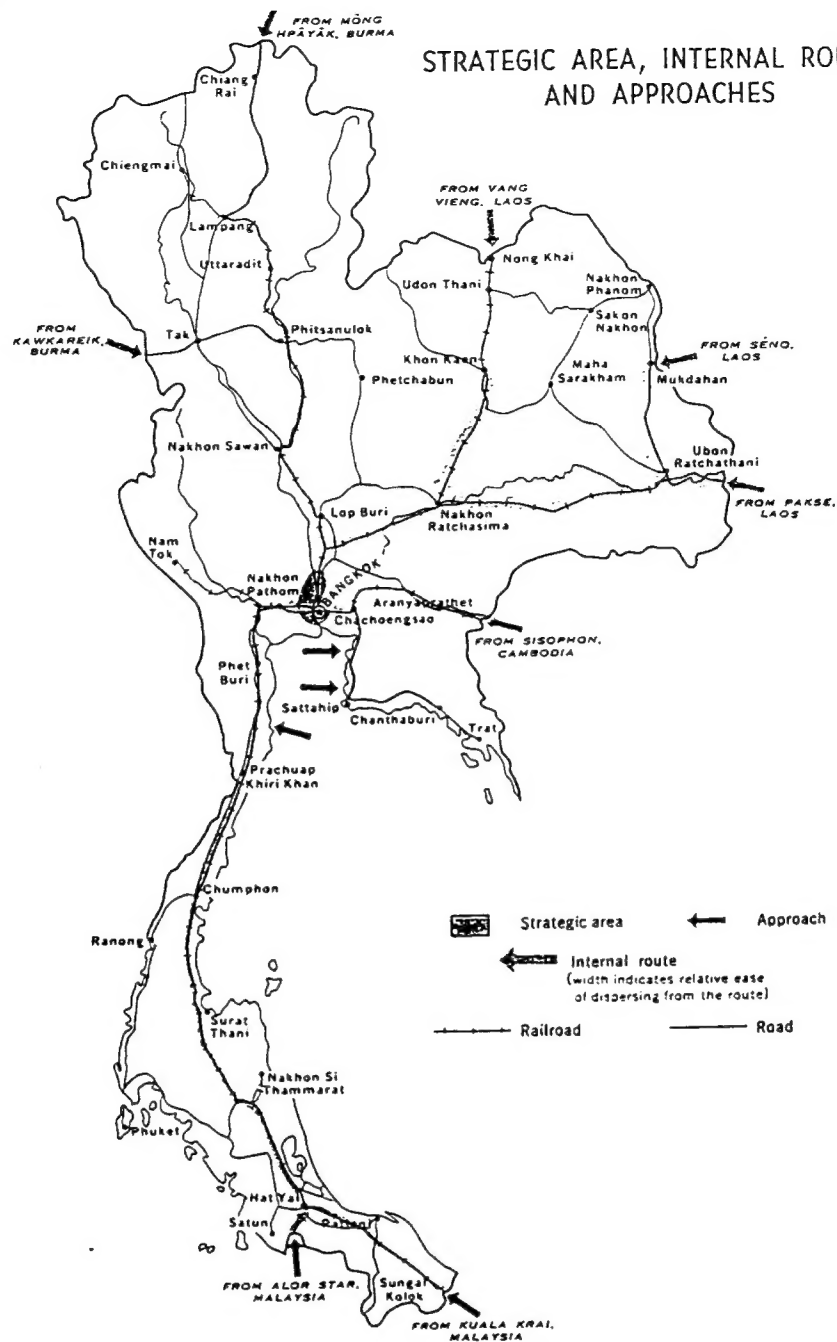
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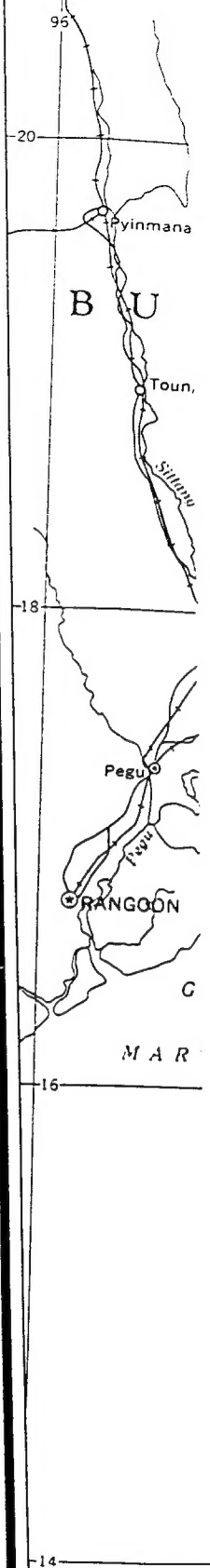
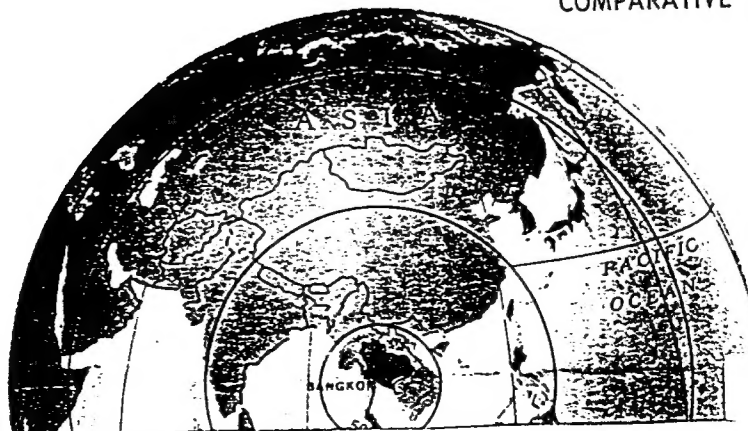
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Office of the Chief of Military History

STRATEGIC AREA, INTERNAL ROUTES, AND APPROACHES

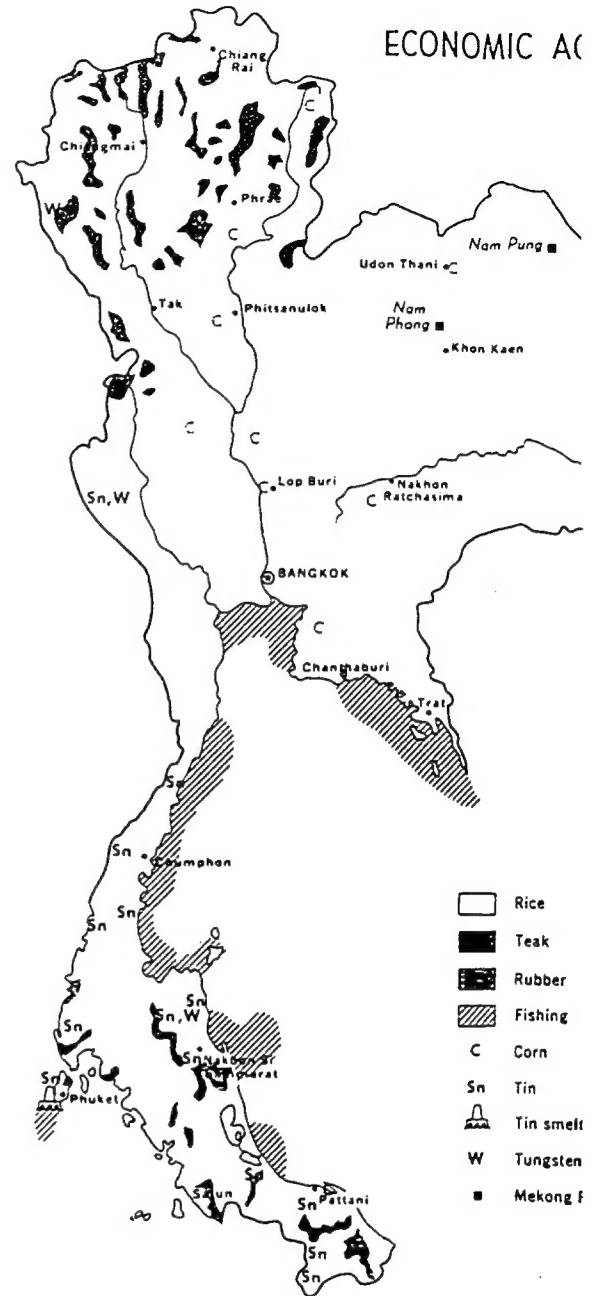
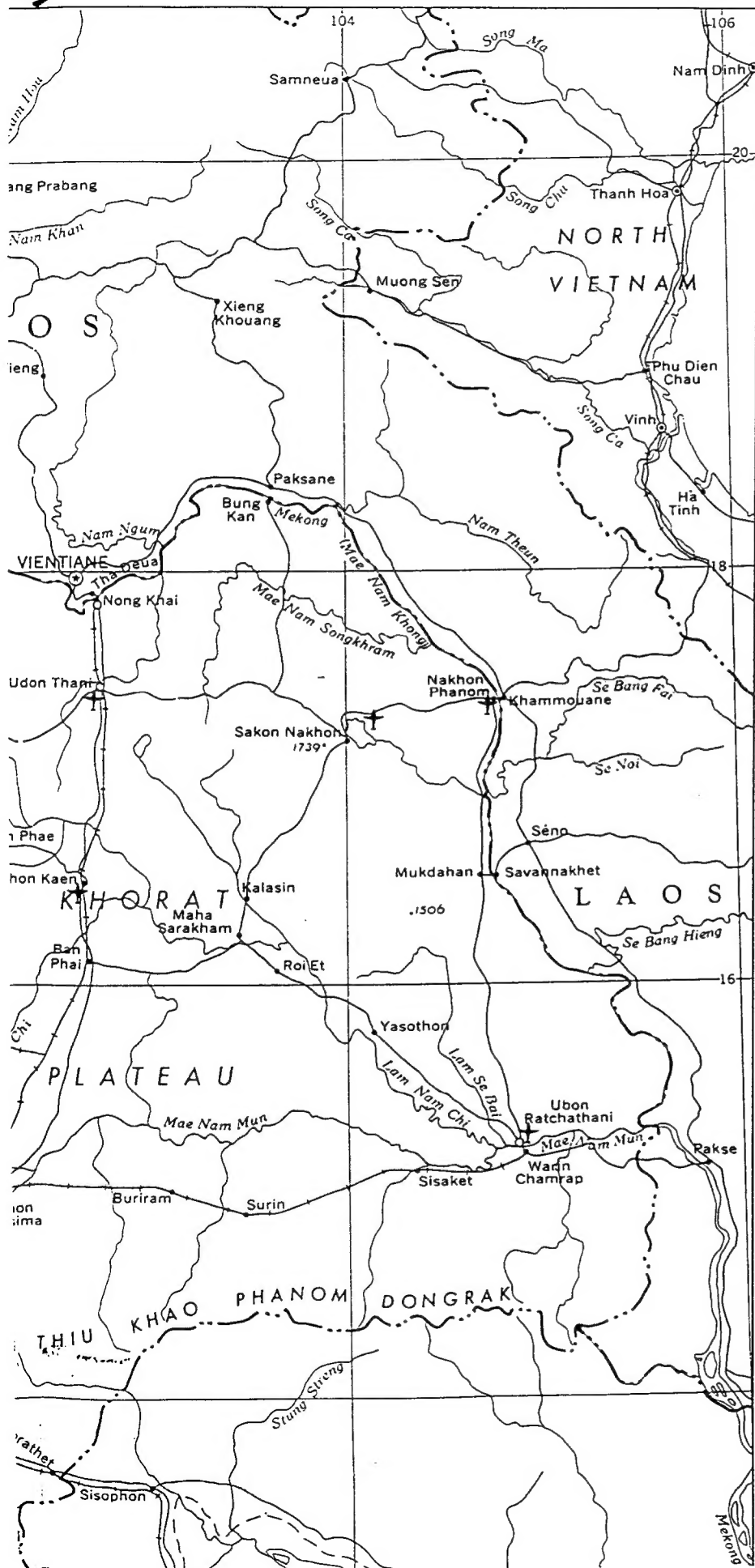


LOCATION AND COMPARATIVE AREAS

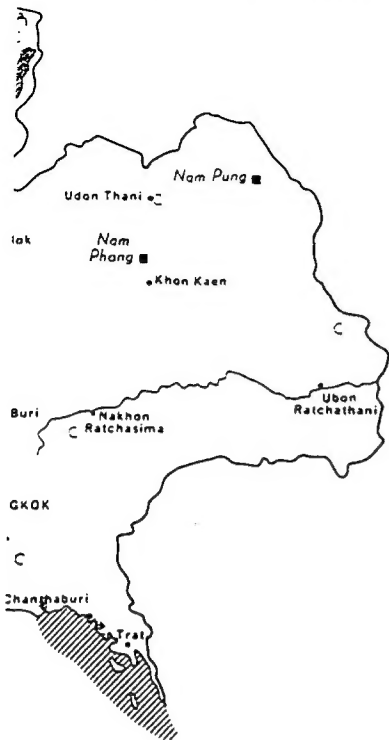


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ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

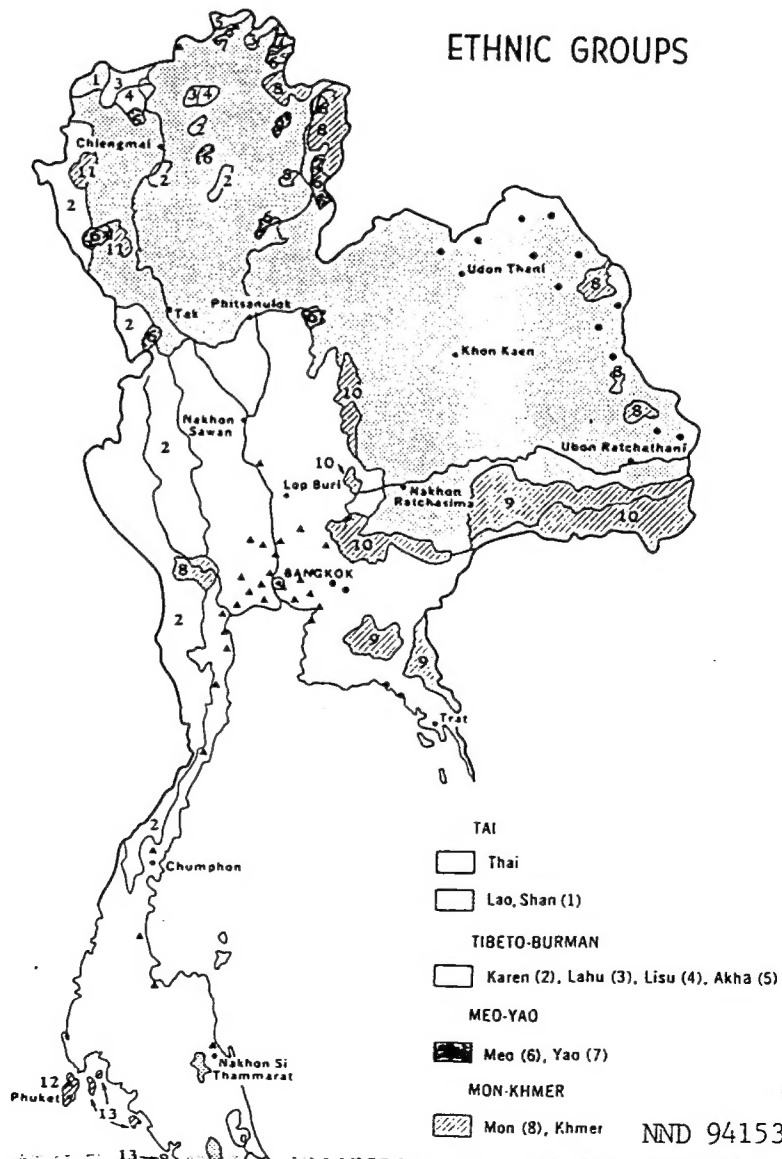


0 100 200 300 Miles
0 100 200 300 Kilometers

- Rice
- Teak
- Rubber
- Fishing
- Corn
- Tin
- Tin smelter
- Tungsten
- Mekong Project dam

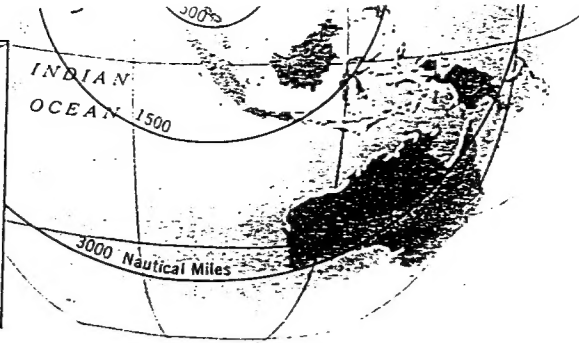
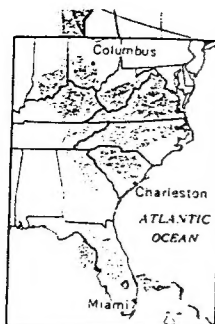


ETHNIC GROUPS



- TAI
 - Thai
 - Lao, Shan (1)
- TIBETO-BURMAN
 - Karen (2), Lahu (3), Lisu (4), Akha (5)
- MED-YAO
 - Meo (6), Yao (7)
- MON-KHMER
 - Mon (8), Khmer

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS



AREA BRIEF

LAND

Approximately 200,000 square miles; about 22% in farm; 51% forest and grazing; 27% occupied by roads, settlements, inland waterways, etc.
Tropical monsoon climate

PEOPLE

Population: 31.5 million (est., July 1966); average density, 160 persons per square mile; 12.5% in urban areas and 87.5% in rural areas; about 82% of labor force is agricultural
Ethnic divisions: 85% Thai, 10% Chinese, 2.5% Malay, 2.5% other
Religion: 95.5% Buddhist, 4% Muslim, 0.5% Christian
Language: Thai; English is secondary language of elite
Literacy: about 70%
Males 15-49: 7,590,000; about 50% fit for military service; approximately 285,000 reach military age (18) annually

GOVERNMENT

Constitutional monarchy, with interim constitution; British-type parliamentary form of government; martial law in effect since 1958
Branches: King is head of state with nominal powers; Prime Minister, with strong personal powers, is assisted by Council of Ministers (cabinet); constituent assembly is rubber stamp, appointed legislative body; judiciary relatively independent except in important political and subversive cases
Suffrage: universal, but elections discontinued in 1958
71 provinces with centrally appointed governors
68,000-man police force
Political parties outlawed; small, covert Communist movement is Chinese-dominated
Member of SEATO, United Nations and its specialized agencies; participant in Colombo Plan and Association of Southeast Asia

ECONOMIC

Food: food surplus area; world's largest rice exporter (1965)
Electric power: public capacity, 539,000 kw. (1965); production, 1.1 billion kw.-hr. (1965)
Exports: rice, rubber, tin, corn, kenaf, tapioca products, oil seeds, teak
Imports: machinery and transport equipment, textiles, petroleum and petroleum products, chemicals, industrial equipment, iron and steel, metal manufactures
Conversion rate: 820.80 (baht)=US\$1.00
Fiscal year: 1 October-30 September

COMMUNICATIONS

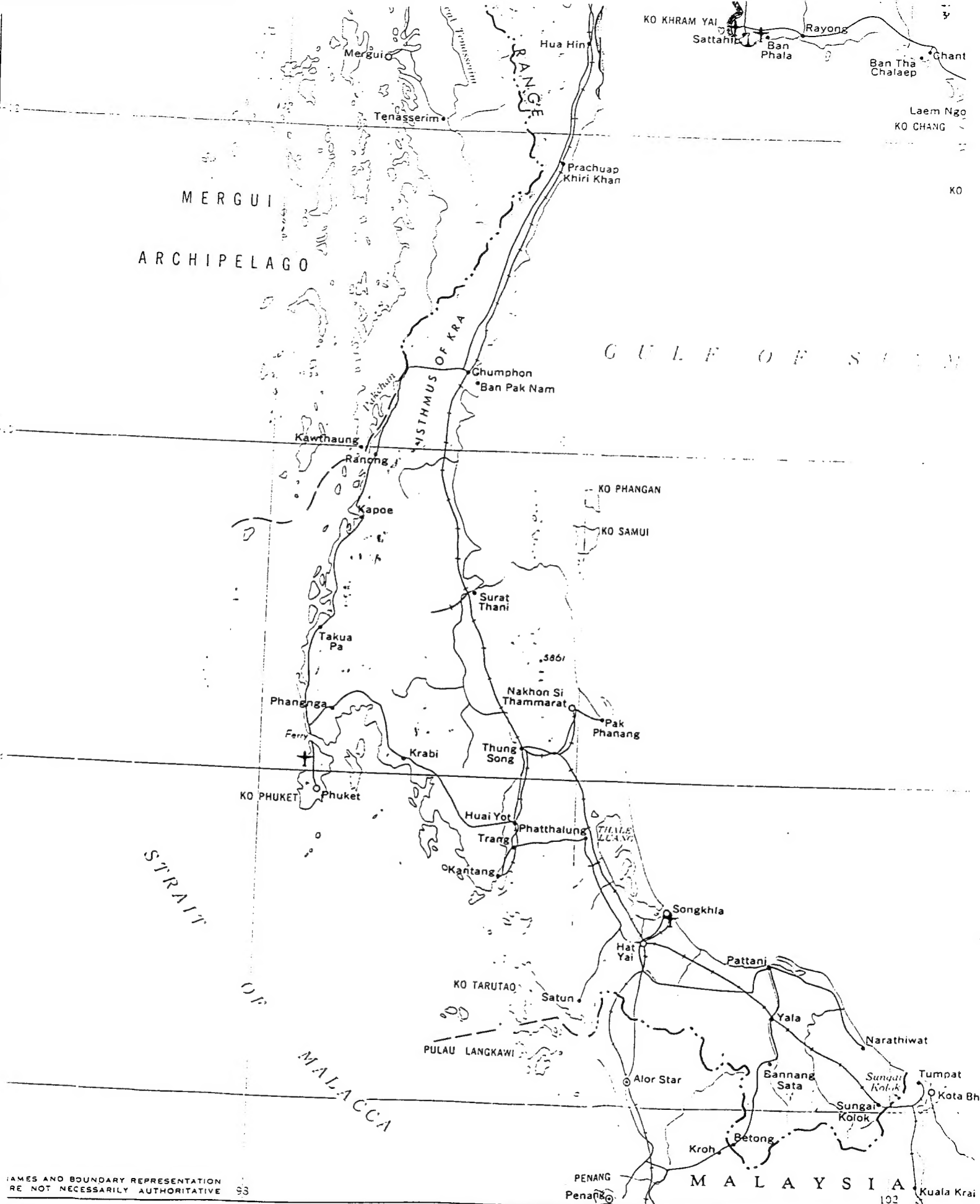
Railroads: 2,277 route miles, meter gage (3'3 3/4"); all single track except 56 miles double; no electrification
Highways: about 7,000 miles (official network); 700 miles bituminous; 2,100 miles bituminous surface treatment; 3,920 miles crushed stone, gravel, or laterite; 280 miles earth
Inland waterways: about 4,000 miles navigable on 93 selected waterways; approximately 9,100 powered craft (more than 50% under 5 tons); 14,450 dumb craft totaling about 154,500 GRT; and an estimated 10,000 sampans of low capacity
Ports: 1 principal (Bangkok), 1 secondary, 16 minor
Merchant marine: 13 ships (1,000 GRT, or over) totaling about 29,000 GRT or 40,800 DWT
Civil air: 2 scheduled airlines (1 international, 1 chiefly domestic); no private aviation; 14 major transport aircraft
Airfields: 118 total (19 with permanent surface runways) and 3 seaplane stations; 6 runways over 8,000 feet; 26 runways between 4,000 and 8,000 feet
Telecommunications: domestic system inadequate; concentrated in and around major cities, especially Bangkok; more than 65,000 telephones, 2,500,000 radio receivers, 300,000 television receivers; fair international facilities

DEFENSE FORCES

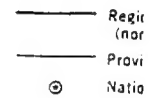
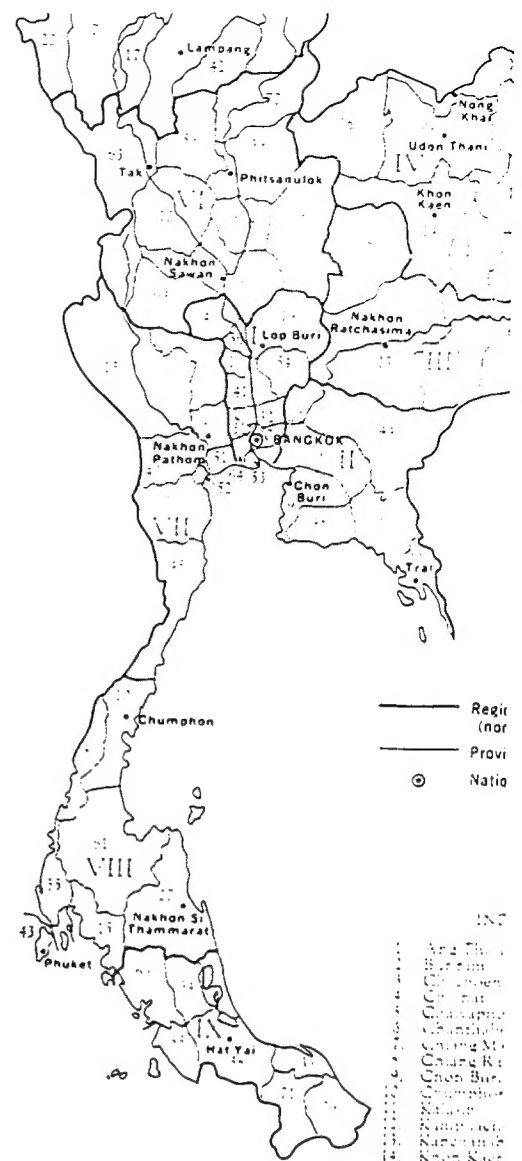
Personnel: army, 88,400; navy, 22,300 (including 7,000 marines); air force, 19,200 (650 pilots); border patrol police, 6,800; police aerial reinforcement unit, 500; marine police, 1,400
Ships: 127 ships and craft
Aircraft: about 300 (47 jet fighters)
Tanks: M24 light tanks, 126; M41 light tanks, 66
Supply: military production limited to small-arms ammunition, small naval craft, and some quartermaster equipment; continuing reliance on foreign, principally U.S., sources for most equipment requirements; self-sufficient in basic foodstuffs

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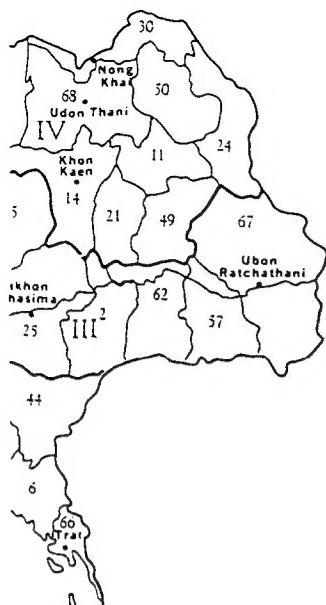
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- Region (phak) boundary (non-administrative)
- Province (changwat) boundary
- ⊙ National capital

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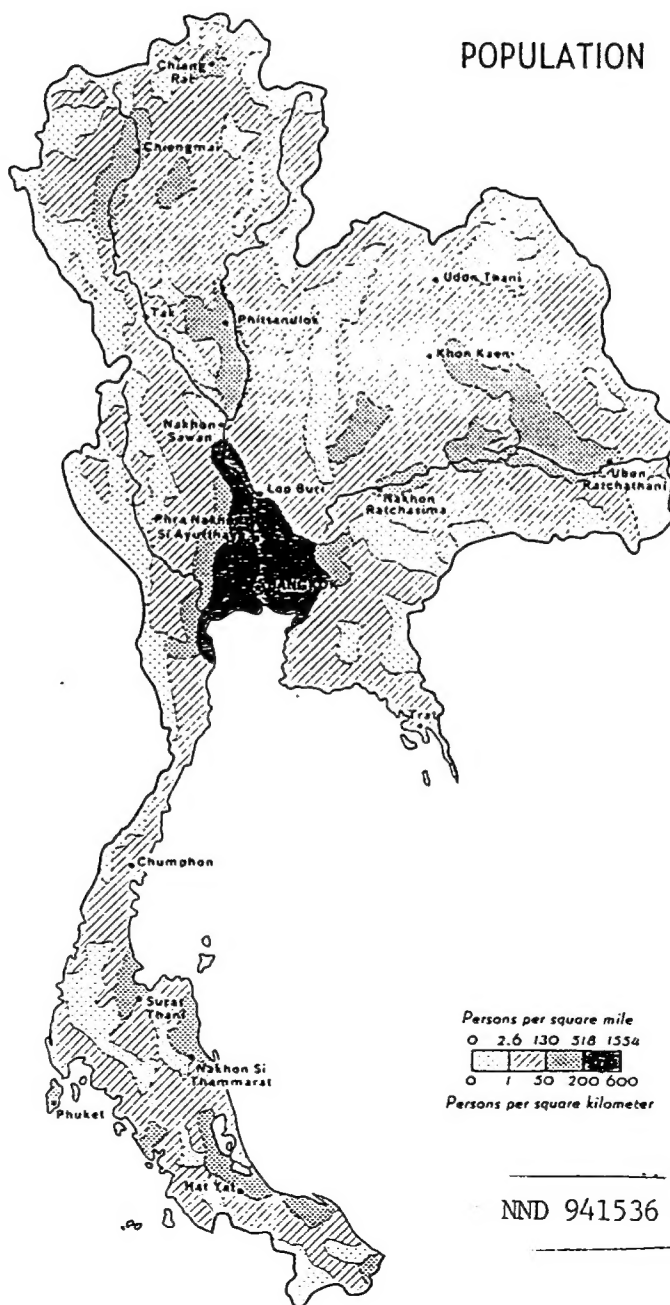
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|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Ang Thong | 37. Phetchabun |
| 2. Buriram | 38. Phichit |
| 3. Chachoengsao | 39. Phitsanulok |
| 4. Chainat | 40. Phra Nakhon |
| 5. Chaiyaphum | 41. Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya |
| 6. Chanthaburi | 42. Phrae |
| 7. Chiang Mai | 43. Phuket |
| 8. Chiang Rai | 44. Prachin Buri |
| 9. Chon Buri | 45. Prachuap Khiri Khan |
| 10. Chumphon | 46. Ranong |
| 11. Kalasin | 47. Rat Buri |
| 12. Kamphaeng Phet | 48. Rayong |
| 13. Kanchanaburi | 49. Roi Et |
| 14. Khon Kaen | 50. Sakon Nakhon |
| 15. Krabi | 51. Samut Sakhon |
| 16. Lampang | 52. Samut Songkhram |
| 17. Lamphun | 53. Samut Prakan |
| 18. Loei | 54. Sara Buri |
| 19. Lop Buri | 55. Satun |
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| 24. Nakhon Phanom | 60. Suphan Buri |
| 25. Nakhon Ratchasima | 61. Surat Thani |
| 26. Nakhon Sawan | 62. Surin |
| 27. Nakhon Si Thammarat | 63. Tak |
| 28. Nan | 64. Thon Buri |
| 29. Narathiwat | 65. Trang |
| 30. Nong Khai | 66. Trar |
| 31. Nonthaburi | 67. Ubon Ratchathani |
| 32. Pathum Thani | 68. Udon Thani |
| 33. Pattani | 69. Uchai Thani |
| 34. Phachalung | 70. Urradit |
| 35. Phangnga | 71. Yala |
| 36. Phet Buri | |



MALAYO-POLYNESIAN

- ▨ Malay (12), Chaonam (Moken) (13)
- ▤ SEMANG
- VIETNAMESE
- ▲ CHINESE

POPULATION



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